

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

December 7, 1987

Dear Charles:

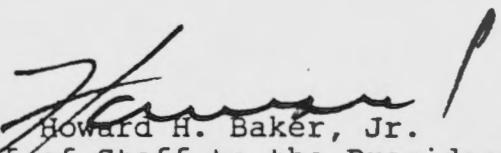
Thank you for your letter. I'm sorry to take so long to get back to you - it's really been busy.

I always enjoy hearing from you and very much value your insight and level headedness.

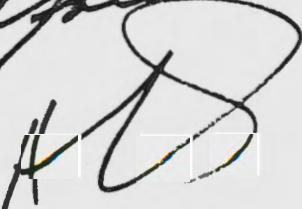
Thanks for the information on Historic Rugby's Second Century fundraising campaign. You can count on my support for this important project.

Please stay in touch.

Sincerely,


Howard H. Baker, Jr.
Chief of Staff to the President

Mr. Charles Howell
Howell & Associates
Management-Public Relations
2704 Twelfth Avenue South
Nashville, Tennessee 37204

PS
*enjoying visiting
you at Sulphur*


CC:Lorraine Camerano, En 61

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

December 7, 1987

Dear Mr. Leventhal:

Thank you for your wire concerning provisions of the deficit reduction negotiations.

As I've told many groups here in Washington, this is not a perfect package, and it need not be the last word on deficit reduction. But it is very clear that if it doesn't pass the results will likely be severe. It's also far superior to the indiscriminate budget cuts that would occur under an automatic sequester.

A defeat of this package would send a dire signal to the international markets that our government has lost the ability to control the deficit -- a signal that could be followed by higher interest rates and a serious slowing of our economy.

This agreement is a solid step toward meaningful deficit reduction over two years, without increasing tax rates or adding new broad-based taxes. Although the specific revenue sources will be determined through the regular legislative process, the President has indicated that he will not hesitate to veto a bad tax bill as the attached remarks indicate.

Now the challenge is to get the package passed by Congress. Hopefully, they will agree with its merits and act soon to pass this important step toward responsible deficit reduction.

Thank you for writing.

Sincerely,

Howard H. Baker, Jr.
Chief of Staff to the President

Mr. Robert S. Leventhal
Chairman and Chief Executive Officer
Western Union Corporation
One Lake Street
Upper Saddle River, NJ 07458

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

December 7, 1987

Dear Mr. Davis:

Thank you for your letter on the budget reduction negotiations. As I'm sure you are aware, we have now reached an agreement and the package will be considered very soon by Congress.

As I've told many groups here in Washington, this is not a perfect package, and it need not be the last word on deficit reduction. But it is very clear that if it doesn't pass the results will likely be severe. It's also far superior to the indiscriminate budget cuts that would occur under an automatic sequester.

A defeat of this package would send a dire signal to the international markets that our government has lost the ability to control the deficit -- a signal that could be followed by higher interest rates and a serious slowing of our economy.

This agreement is a solid step toward meaningful deficit reduction over two years, without increasing tax rates or adding new broad-based taxes or new excise taxes. A new cigarette tax is also therefore excluded. Although the specific revenue sources will be determined through the regular legislative process, the President has indicated that he will not hesitate to veto a bad tax bill as the attached remarks indicate.

Now the challenge is to get the package passed by Congress. Hopefully, they will agree with its merits and act soon to pass this important step toward responsible deficit reduction.

Thank you for writing.

Sincerely,

Howard H. Baker, Jr.
Chief of Staff to the President

Mr. Alan C. Davis
Chairman
Coalition on Smoking OR Health
1607 New Hampshire Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20009

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

December 7, 1987

Dear Mr. Neece:

Thank you for your letter on the budget reduction negotiations. As I'm sure you are aware, we have now reached an agreement and the package will be considered very soon by Congress.

As I've told many groups here in Washington, this is not a perfect package, and it need not be the last word on deficit reduction. But it is very clear that if it doesn't pass the results will likely be severe. It's also far superior to the indiscriminate budget cuts that would occur under an automatic sequester.

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Now the challenge is to get the package passed by Congress. Hopefully, they will agree with its merits and act soon to pass this important step toward responsible deficit reduction.

Thank you for writing.

Sincerely,

Howard H. Baker, Jr.
Chief of Staff to the President

Mr. Allen Neece
Legislative Counsel
National Venture Capital Assn.
Suite 810
1050 17th Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20036

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

December 7, 1987

Dear Mr. Kirshner:

Thank you for your letter on the budget reduction negotiations. As I'm sure you are aware, we have now reached an agreement and the package will be considered very soon by Congress.

As I've told many groups here in Washington, this is not a perfect package, and it need not be the last word on deficit reduction. But it is very clear that if it doesn't pass the results will likely be severe. It's also far superior to the indiscriminate budget cuts that would occur under an automatic sequester.

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Now the challenge is to get the package passed by Congress. Hopefully, they will agree with its merits and act soon to pass this important step toward responsible deficit reduction.

Thank you for writing.

Sincerely,

Howard H. Baker, Jr.
Chief of Staff to the President

Mr. Robert A. Kirshner
General Counsel
National Forest Products Association
Suite 200
1250 Connecticut Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20036

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

December 7, 1987

Dear Ms. Evenson:

Thank you for your letter on the budget reduction negotiations. As I'm sure you are aware, we have now reached an agreement and the package will be considered very soon by Congress.

As I've told many groups here in Washington, this is not a perfect package, and it need not be the last word on deficit reduction. But it is very clear that if it doesn't pass the results will likely be severe. It's also far superior to the indiscriminate budget cuts that would occur under an automatic sequester.

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Now the challenge is to get the package passed by Congress. Hopefully, they will agree with its merits and act soon to pass this important step toward responsible deficit reduction.

Thank you for writing.

Sincerely,

Howard H. Baker, Jr.
Chief of Staff to the President

Ms. Fawn Evenson
Acting President
Footwear Industries of America
Suite 600
1420 K Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20005

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

December 7, 1987

Dear Mr. Shaw:

Thank you for your letter on the budget reduction negotiations. As I'm sure you are aware, we have now reached an agreement and the package will be considered very soon by Congress.

As I've told many groups here in Washington, this is not a perfect package, and it need not be the last word on deficit reduction. But it is very clear that if it doesn't pass the results will likely be severe. It's also far superior to the indiscriminate budget cuts that would occur under an automatic sequester.

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Now the challenge is to get the package passed by Congress. Hopefully, they will agree with its merits and act soon to pass this important step toward responsible deficit reduction.

Thank you for writing.

Sincerely,

Howard H. Baker, Jr.
Chief of Staff to the President

Mr. Harry A. Shaw, III
Chairman
Bicycle Manufacturers Association
of America Inc.
Suite 316
1055 Thomas Jefferson St., N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20007

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

December 7, 1987

Dear Mr. Sullivan:

Thank you for your letter on the budget reduction negotiations. As I'm sure you are aware, we have now reached an agreement and the package will be considered very soon by Congress.

As I've told many groups here in Washington, this is not a perfect package, and it need not be the last word on deficit reduction. But it is very clear that if it doesn't pass the results will likely be severe. It's also far superior to the indiscriminate budget cuts that would occur under an automatic sequester.

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Now the challenge is to get the package passed by Congress. Hopefully, they will agree with its merits and act soon to pass this important step toward responsible deficit reduction.

Thank you for writing.

Sincerely,

Howard H. Baker, Jr.
Chief of Staff to the President

Mr. Timothy C. Sullivan
Senior Vice President,
Human Resources
The Pillsbury Company
Pillsbury Center
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55402

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

December 7, 1987

Dear Mr. Bourke:

Thank you for your letter on the budget reduction negotiations. As I'm sure you are aware, we have now reached an agreement and the package will be considered very soon by Congress.

As I've told many groups here in Washington, this is not a perfect package, and it need not be the last word on deficit reduction. But it is very clear that if it doesn't pass the results will likely be severe. It's also far superior to the indiscriminate budget cuts that would occur under an automatic sequester.

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Now the challenge is to get the package passed by Congress. Hopefully, they will agree with its merits and act soon to pass this important step toward responsible deficit reduction.

Thank you for writing.

Sincerely,

Howard H. Baker, Jr.
Chief of Staff to the President

Mr. William O. Bourke
President and Chief Executive Officer
Reynolds Aluminum
Reynolds Metals Company
Richmond, Virginia 23261

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

December 7, 1987

Dear Mr. Burdge:

Thank you for your letter on the budget reduction negotiations. As I'm sure you are aware, we have now reached an agreement and the package will be considered very soon by Congress.

As I've told many groups here in Washington, this is not a perfect package, and it need not be the last word on deficit reduction. But it is very clear that if it doesn't pass the results will likely be severe. It's also far superior to the indiscriminate budget cuts that would occur under an automatic sequester.

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Now the challenge is to get the package passed by Congress. Hopefully, they will agree with its merits and act soon to pass this important step toward responsible deficit reduction.

Thank you for writing.

Sincerely,

Howard H. Baker, Jr.
Chief of Staff to the President

Mr. J. J. Burdge
Chairman
Harsco Corporation
Post Office Box 8888
Camp Hill, PA 17011-8888

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

December 7, 1987

Dear Mr. Ruempler:

Thank you for your letter on the budget reduction negotiations. As I'm sure you are aware, we have now reached an agreement and the package will be considered very soon by Congress.

As I've told many groups here in Washington, this is not a perfect package, and it need not be the last word on deficit reduction. But it is very clear that if it doesn't pass the results will likely be severe. It's also far superior to the indiscriminate budget cuts that would occur under an automatic sequester.

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Now the challenge is to get the package passed by Congress. Hopefully, they will agree with its merits and act soon to pass this important step toward responsible deficit reduction.

Thank you for writing.

Sincerely,

Howard H. Baker, Jr.
Chief of Staff to the President

Mr. Henry C. Ruempler
Tax Counsel
American Bankers Association
1120 Connecticut Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20036

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

December 7, 1987

Dear Mr. Salinger:

Thank you for your letter on the budget reduction negotiations. As I'm sure you are aware, we have now reached an agreement and the package will be considered very soon by Congress.

As I've told many groups here in Washington, this is not a perfect package, and it need not be the last word on deficit reduction. But it is very clear that if it doesn't pass the results will likely be severe. It's also far superior to the indiscriminate budget cuts that would occur under an automatic sequester.

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Now the challenge is to get the package passed by Congress. Hopefully, they will agree with its merits and act soon to pass this important step toward responsible deficit reduction.

Thank you for writing.

Sincerely,

Howard H. Baker, Jr.
Chief of Staff to the President

Mr. Frank M. Salinger
General Counsel and Director
of Legislative Affairs
American Financial Services Association
1101 Fourteenth Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20005

December 8, 1987

Dear Mr. Cole:

Please pardon my delay in responding to your letter of July 24, describing the financial consequences which you and others face as a result of the collapse of the Southern Industrial Banking Corporation (SIBC).

I have looked into S. 509 and H.R. 1351, the legislation which has been introduced to address this situation. Based upon its preliminary review of these bills, the Justice Department has identified several potential constitutional problems involving, for example, the constitutional requirement that all bankruptcy legislation be uniform in its application. I am assured, however, that the Justice Department is ready to work with the House and Senate Judiciary Committees at their convenience to address these concerns.

I know that this situation is causing great personal and financial difficulty for you and the many others affected by the SIBC bankruptcy. I regret that I cannot be of greater assistance to you at this time.

With best wishes,

Sincerely,

Howard H. Baker, Jr.
Chief of Staff to the President

Mr. D. Stanley Cole
1402 Armstrong Avenue
Knoxville, TN 37917

HHB/DOJ/LRC/AVH/lynn-pt (pc2-12COS)

cc#: Lorraine Camarano, 61 OEOB
CLEARED THRU A.B. CULVAHOUSE

December 8, 1987

Dear Ms. Sterling:

Thank for your kind letter of November 17. I am happy to hear that you and the other Fellows are pleased with Marci Head's work for the White House Fellows program. I think a great deal of Marci, and I am certain that with her energy and enthusiasm she will be outstanding in her new tasks.

I hope that you are also finding your tour at the Department of Justice interesting and rewarding.

The White House Fellows program is very special to me, and I'm pleased to support it any way I can.

With warm best wishes,

Sincerely,

Howard H. Baker, Jr.
Chief of Staff to the President

Ms. Mary Sterling
Special Assistant to the
Attorney General
Washington, D.C. 20530

HHB/JCT/LRC/CAD/AVH/pt (pc2-12COS)

cc: Lorraine Camarano, 61 OEOB

December 8, 1987

Dear John:

This is a belated response to your October 28 letter on the British Petroleum offering. I very much appreciate your keeping me informed of developments in this matter and, in particular, sharing with me a comprehensive statement of the position of your firm, Morgan Stanley & Company, Incorporated, and Shearson Lehman American Express. As I told you, we conferred with the British government on this subject and urged them to consider your arguments.

While the price floor established in connection with the offering obviously was of some benefit, I recognize that you and the other U.S.-based underwriters nonetheless incurred significant losses.

I appreciate all of the support and advice you have given over the last month. Again, thank you for keeping me apprised of developments in this matter.

Sincerely,

Howard H. Baker, Jr.
Chief of Staff to the President

Mr. John L. Weinberg
Senior Partner
Goldman, Sachs & Company
85 Broad Street
New York, New York 10004

HHB/ABC/JCT/LRC/CAD/pt (pc2-12COS)

cc: Lorraine Camarano, 61 OEOB

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

December 8, 1987

Dear Al:

The enclosed correspondence and application is forwarded to you from Bryon Chris Davidson, who left it with my office in Tennessee.

I would appreciate your acknowledging receipt to Bryon Davidson directly.

Sincerely,

Howard H. Baker, Jr.
Chief of Staff to the President

The Honorable Albert Gore, Jr.
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

Enclosure

December 8, 1987

Dear Joe:

Thanks for the note. I couldn't agree with you and Bill Hearst more concerning Frank's selection as Cap Weinberger's replacement at the Department of Defense.

He will do an outstanding job for our President, and we will continue to work very closely together.

Best wishes.

Sincerely,

Howard H. Baker, Jr.
Chief of Staff to the President

Mr. Joseph Kingsbury-Smith
National Editor
Washington Headquarters
The Hearst Newspapers
1701 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20006

HHB/JT/LRC/CAD/AVH/pt (pc2-12COS)
Kingsbur.hhb
cc: Lorraine Camarano, 61 OEOB

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

December 8, 1987

Dear Jim:

The enclosed correspondence and application
is forwarded to you from Bryon Chris
Davidson, who left it with my office in
Tennessee.

I would appreciate your acknowledging
receipt to Bryon Davidson directly.

Sincerely,

Howard H. Baker, Jr.
Chief of Staff to the President

The Honorable Jim Cooper
United States House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Enclosure

December 8, 1987

Dear Mr. Hineman:

Thanks for sending me the copy of your preliminary report on October market activity. I will review it and your subsequent reports with a great deal of interest. I fully agree with your opening statement that we must act with reason and care and avoid a hasty, and possibly counter-productive, response. That is one reason why the President asked Nick Brady to head a group to provide independent analyses and recommendations.

As you know, we continue to monitor the international financial community very closely. Please keep me informed on developments as you see them.

Best wishes.

Sincerely,

Howard H. Baker, Jr.
Chief of Staff to the President

Mr. Kalo A. Hineman
Acting Chairman
Commodity Futures Trading Commission
2033 K Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20581

HHB/DCrippen/JCT/LRC/CAD/pt (pc2-12COS)

cc: Lorraine Camarano, 61 OEOB

December 8, 1987

Dear Mr. Hoyt:

Thanks for your kind note and birthday greetings.

It was great to see everyone -- I found our meeting helpful, too.

Best wishes.

Sincerely,

Howard H. Baker, Jr.
Chief of Staff to the President

Mr. Clark Hoyt
Bureau Chief
Knight Ridder
700 National Press Building
529 14th Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20045

HHB/JCT/LRC/CAD/AVH/pt (pc2-12COS)

cc: Lorraine Camarano, 61 OEOB

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

December 8, 1987

Dear Bill:

I hope by now John Tuck has let you know that A. B. Culvahouse told me that I had to recuse myself on the "phantom" tax matter because of our previous association and representation of Merrill Lynch. I enclose a copy of A. B.'s memo.

I am sorry I could not do this. This is about the only thing you ever asked me to do.

Sincerely,

Howard H. Baker, Jr.
Chief of Staff to the President

Mr. William Hildenbrand
Suite 950
1455 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20004

December 8, 1987

Dear Mr. Prime Minister:

This note is to express my sincere thanks for the very handsome, ornate box which you sent to me. I am enjoying your gift immensely, and it's a wonderful remembrance of your goodwill and friendship. I truly appreciate your special kindness.

With my best wishes,

Sincerely,

Howard H. Baker, Jr.
Chief of Staff to the President

His Excellency
Rajiv Gandhi
Prime Minister of India
New Delhi

HHB/CMF/AVH/CAD/pt (pc2-COS12)

cc: Lorraine Camarano, 61 OEOB
cc: John Hilboldt, Gift Unit

December 8, 1987

Dear Mr. Lazar:

Thank you for your letter of November 23 suggesting that I write a book regarding my experiences in the United States Senate and in my current post.

While I may very well venture a book following my tenure at the White House, I don't foresee participating in any earlier activity in this regard.

It was kind of you to mention the possibility of my running for President, however, it is my intention to serve President Reagan until the end of his term. Your thoughtfulness and interest in my pursuits are greatly appreciated.

Please accept my very best wishes at this special time of year.

Sincerely,

Howard H. Baker, Jr.
Chief of Staff to the President

Mr. Irving Paul Lazar
120 El Camino
Beverly Hills, California 90212

HHB/MO/CAD/pt (pc2-COS12)

cc: Lorraine Camarano, 61 OEOB

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

December 8, 1987

Dear Jim:

The enclosed correspondence and application is forwarded to you from Bryon Chris Davidson, who left it with my office in Tennessee.

I would appreciate your acknowledging receipt to Bryon Davidson directly.

Sincerely,

Howard H. Baker, Jr.
Chief of Staff to the President

The Honorable Jim Cooper
United States House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Enclosure

Copies, etc sent to Joni Stevens, mil. off
12/9/87

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

December 8, 1987

Dear Al:

The enclosed correspondence and application is forwarded to you from Bryon Chris Davidson, who left it with my office in Tennessee.

I would appreciate your acknowledging receipt to Bryon Davidson directly.

Sincerely,

Howard H. Baker, Jr.
Chief of Staff to the President

The Honorable Albert Gore, Jr.
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

Enclosure

Copies of this info sent
to Joni Steven, mil. off
12/9/87

December 9, 1987

Dear Ms. Hewitt:

Thank you for your letter of November 17 and for enclosing your kind letters to the Chief of Staff and President Reagan.

I will be sure to pass along the letter addressed to the President from "Children in Distress" so that he is aware of the conference recommendations.

With Senator Baker's best wishes,

Sincerely,

Sue Walkup
Special Assistant
to the Chief of Staff

Ms. Frankie Hewitt
Executive Producer
Ford's Theatre
511 Tenth Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20004

SW/MO/CAD/pt (pc2-12COS)

cc: Lorraine Camarano, 61 OEOB
cc: Anne Higgins w/inc. 10/16/87 ltr to RR
cc: Dan Engler - FYI

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

December 9, 1987

Dear Mr. Kislak:

Thank you for your letter concerning what you can do to support deficit reduction.

As I'm sure you are aware, we have reached a deficit reduction agreement with Congressional leaders and this package will be considered very soon. This is not a perfect package and it need not be the last word on deficit reduction. But it is clear that if it doesn't pass the results will likely be severe. It's also far superior to the indiscriminate budget cuts that would occur under an automatic sequester.

A defeat of this package would send a dire signal to the international markets that our government has lost the ability to control the deficit -- a signal that could be followed by higher interest rates and a serious slowing of our economy.

This agreement is a solid step toward meaningful deficit reduction over two years, without increasing tax rates or adding new broad-based taxes. Although the specific revenue sources will be determined through the regular legislative process, the President has indicated that he will not hesitate to veto a bad tax bill as the attached remarks indicate.

Now the challenge is to get the package passed by Congress. You and all concerned citizens can help by telling your elected officials that now, not later, is the time to act on deficit reduction.

Thank you for writing.

Sincerely,

Howard H. Baker, Jr.
Chief of Staff to the President

Mr. Jay I. Kislak
J. I. Kislak Mortgage Corporation
7900 Miami Lakes Drive West
Miami Lakes, Florida 33016-5897

December 9, 1987

Dear Mr. Fordham:

Thank you for your letter recommending Professor Phillip E. Areeda for nomination to the United States Supreme Court. Professor Areeda certainly has a most distinguished record as an academic and a former government official.

We will bear your suggestion in mind should another vacancy arise. I appreciate your bringing your support for Professor Areeda to my attention.

With best wishes,

- Sincerely,

Howard H. Baker, Jr.
Chief of Staff to the President

Laurence S. Fordham, Esq.
Fordham & Starrett
260 Franklin Street
Boston, Massachusetts 02110

HHB/ABC/LRC/CAD/pt (pc2-12COS)

cc: Lorraine Camarano, 61 OEOB

December 9, 1987

Dear Waller:

Thank you for your letter recommending Robert Van Dine for an appointment to a Presidential board or commission.

I have asked Bob Tuttle, Director of Presidential Personnel, to contact Mr. Van Dine so that he may be given every consideration for an appointment. I appreciate your writing and giving me the additional detail about his background and interests.

With best regards,

Sincerely,

Howard H. Baker, Jr.
Chief of Staff to the President

Mr. Waller Taylor II
Adams, Duque & Hazeltine
523 West 6th Street
Los Angeles, California 90014

HHB/RTuttle/LRC/CAD/pt (pc2-12HBB)

cc: Lorraine Camarano, 61 OEOR
cc: Katja Bullock with incoming

December 9, 1987

Dear Mr. Markham:

Thank you for your October 5 letter asking the President to autograph your poem about the Berlin Wall.

Although the number of such requests prevents President Reagan from honoring them, it is a pleasure to learn of the interest your poem has generated. Your words evoke the strong spirit of freedom and the determination to defend human rights which are the essence of the American character. In that sense, your work stands on its own as a deeply felt statement epitomizing American concerns and values. Your poem thus echoes and reinforces the President's publicly stated views on the Wall.

In that regard, I'm enclosing a copy of a recent Presidential speech which reiterates his commitment to see the Berlin Wall torn down. Your voice helps demonstrate how widespread this sentiment is throughout America.

Again, thank you for your humanitarian concern and support on this important issue. It can only be hoped that, by working together, we may one day soon see the wish expressed in your eloquent verses come true.

With warm regards,

Sincerely,

Howard H. Baker, Jr.
Chief of Staff to the President

Mr. C. Leslie Markham, Jr.
Director
Pupil Support Services
and Testing
Chattanooga Public Schools
1161 West 40th Street
Chattanooga, Tennessee 37409

Enclosure: ROTP, 11/3/87
HHB/DOS/NSC/JCT/LAS/CAD/pt (pc2-12COS)
Cleared THRU NSC
cc: Lorraine Camarano, 61 OEOB

December 9, 1987

Dear Bob:

Thanks for your very nice note and the accompanying letter to the editor. Your expression of support is most timely, and it means a great deal to me.

"Thanks for the memory."

Sincerely,

Howard H. Baker, Jr.
Chief of Staff to the President

Mr. Bob Hope
10346 Moorpark Avenue
North Hollywood, California 91602

HHB/JCT/LRC/CAD/pt (pc2-12COS)

cc: Lorraine Camarano, 61 OEOB

December 9, 1987

Dear Roger:

Thanks for sending along the comments from your European Advisory Council. I hope that the agreement we reached last month will be the catalyst you describe. The settlement is multi-year and, I would argue, credible -- the primary one-time savings are asset sales, which make up only 10% of the package. There are real savings in entitlement programs, including agriculture, and real revenues, all of which translate into permanent reductions.

It is not as much as I had hoped or the President had hoped, but it is a good first step. There are only three basic alternatives to reduce the deficit. The first of these is a larger package, but it would have to include a limitation on COLAs. Whether that is a good idea or not, it is clear there simply aren't enough votes to pass a broad COLA change in either the House or the Senate. The second alternative is the plan that emerged from the negotiations, or something very close to it. The third choice is simply letting the sequester take effect and admitting that the only way we can deal with the deficit is by going on "autopilot."

I think that the result, while not perfect, shows that the Executive and Legislative branches can come together and function and should clearly demonstrate that the President is not inflexible on either taxes or defense. After sitting in those negotiations for 20 days, I've got to tell you that if there is any stubbornness, it is in the Congress's unwillingness to cut domestic spending, especially entitlements.

I appreciate your renewed offer to assist; as you know, we fully plan to take you up on it. We will need all the help we can get in passing and implementing this package. Best regards.

Sincerely,

Howard H. Baker, Jr.
Chief of Staff to the President

The Honorable Roger B. Smith
Chairman
General Motors Corporation
General Motors Building
Detroit, Michigan 48202
HBB/DCrippen/JCT/LRC/CAD/pt
Smithr.hbb

cc: Lorraine Camarano, 61 OEOR

(pc2-12HBB)

December 9, 1987

Dear Mr. Aytes:

I want to thank you for your recent correspondence regarding your interest in having a Federal prison sited in Morgan County.

It is my understanding that Jim Jones, Site Acquisition Coordinator for the Bureau of Prisons, will visit Morgan County on December 15. As you may know, the Bureau of Prisons has very specific criteria that must be followed in establishing the location of any new facility. To this end, I wish you the best of success in receiving possible consideration for any future prison site.

Again, thank you for writing.

Sincerely,

Howard H. Baker, Jr.
Chief of Staff to the President

Mr. Gene T. Aytes
Morgan County Executive
Post Office Box 387
Wartburg, Tennessee 37887

HHB/GKing/CAD/pt (pc2-12HBB)

cc: Lorraine Camarano, 61 OEOB

December 9, 1987

Dear Mr. McCloud:

On behalf of Senator Baker, I want to thank you for your letter. He was pleased to hear from you.

I'm enclosing a page from the Congressional Record for July 30, 1968, which includes Senator Baker's eulogy on the death of Robert Kennedy. I hope you will find it of interest.

The Senator appreciates your thoughtfulness in writing, and he sends his best wishes to you and your students.

Sincerely,

Sue Walkup
Special Assistant
to the Chief of Staff

Mr. Bill McCloud
Coordinator/Social Studies
Pryor Junior High School
Post Office Box 548
Pryor, Oklahoma 74362

Enclosure: 7/30/68 Congressional Record featuring
Senator Baker's eulogy for Robert Kennedy

SW/LRC/CAD/AVH/pt (pc2-12COS)
cc: Lorraine Camarano, 61 OEOB

U

December 9, 1987

Dear Dr. and Mrs. Faville:

Thank you for your thoughtful message. I appreciate your friendship, but I do not plan to run for office in 1988. It is my intention to serve President Reagan until the end of his term.

Your words of encouragement mean a great deal to me. Please accept my warm best wishes.

Sincerely,

Howard H. Baker, Jr.
Chief of Staff to the President

Dr. and Mrs. Ralph J. Faville, Jr.
2950 West River Road
Minneapolis, MN 55406

HHB/LRC/CAD/AVH/ckbf5
HHB-17

✓cc: Lorraine Camarano - 61 OEOB

U

December 9, 1987

Dear Mr. Smith:

Thank you for your thoughtful message. I appreciate your friendship, but I do not plan to run for office in 1988. It is my intention to serve President Reagan until the end of his term.

Your words of encouragement mean a great deal to me. Please accept my warm best wishes.

Sincerely,

Howard H. Baker, Jr.
Chief of Staff to the President

Mr. Allan R. Smith
322 Northwest Fulton Street
DeKalb, TX 75559

HHB/LRC/CAD/AVH/ckbf5
HHB-17

cc: Lorraine Camarano - 61 OEOB

U

December 9, 1987

Dear Mr. Harjehausen:

I am pleased to learn of the fine work you are doing. I have always admired the spirit of Americans who give of their time and abilities to make life better for others.

I am sure you will understand, however, that because of the large number of similar worthy endeavors brought to my attention each day, I cannot extend my personal support in the way you suggest.

I appreciate your efforts to reach me, and I send my best wishes for success in meeting your goals.

Sincerely,

Howard H. Baker, Jr.
Chief of Staff to the President

Mr. Edward A. Harjehausen
Director, Macon County Unit
American Cancer Society
1150 West Pershing Road
Decatur, IL 62526

HHB/SW/WJB/RKS/ckbf5
HHB-11

cc: Lorraine Camarano - 61 OEOB

U

December 9, 1987

Dear Ms. Fishburn:

Thank you for your recent message.

It was good of you to tell me where you stand on these significant issues. You have no idea how helpful it is for me to hear directly from the American people. I will share your comments with the appropriate members of the White House staff.

With best wishes,

Sincerely,

Howard H. Baker, Jr.
Chief of Staff to the President

Ms. Judy Fishburn
721 South 16th Street
Shelton, WA 98584

HHB/SW/WJB/RKS/ckbf5
HHB-3A

cc: Lorraine Camarano - 61 OEOB

U

December 9, 1987

Dear Mr. Wise:

Thank you for your recent message.

It was good of you to tell me where you stand on these significant issues. You have no idea how helpful it is for me to hear directly from the American people. I will share your comments with the appropriate members of the White House staff.

With best wishes,

Sincerely,

Howard H. Baker, Jr.
Chief of Staff to the President

Mr. William J. Wise
722 Fairmont Drive
Venice, FL 34287

HHB/SW/WJB/RKS/ckbf5
HHB-3A

cc: Lorraine Camarano - 61 OEOB

U

December 9, 1987

Dear Mr. Potter:

Thank you for your kind message. I appreciate your warm words of support and confidence.

With best wishes,

Sincerely,

Howard H. Baker, Jr.
Chief of Staff to the President

Mr. Strite H. Potter
Box 333
University of Richmond
Richmond, VA 23173

HHB/SW/WJB/RKS/ckbf5
HHB-1

cc: Lorraine Camarano - 61 OEOB

December 9, 1987

Dear Mr. Cazlamvotsakis:

Thank you for your kind message. I appreciate your warm words of support and confidence.

With best wishes,

Sincerely,

Howard H. Baker, Jr.
Chief of Staff to the President

Mr. Constantin Cazlamvotsakis
218 West 34th Street
Kansas City, MO 64111

HHB/SW/WJB/RKS/ckbf5
HHB-1

✓cc: Lorraine Camarano - 61 OEOB

U

December 9, 1987

Dear Mr. Walker:

Thank you for your message asking to meet with the Chief of Staff while you are in Washington.

I am sorry this must be a disappointing response, but the heavy demands of Mr. Baker's schedule make it impossible to comply with your request. However, he appreciates your interest and sends you his best wishes.

Sincerely,

Lura Nell Mitchell
Personal Assistant
to the Chief of Staff

Mr. Donald G. Walker
Route 2, Box 64
Jasper, TN 37347

LNM/WJB/ckbf5
LNM-2

✓c: Lorraine Camarano - Room 61 OEOB

December 9, 1987

Dear Mr. Gilkerson:

Thank you for letting me know your views about the deficit situation and the various proposals which have been receiving attention. The negotiations are ongoing, and every attempt is being made to arrive at a bipartisan agreement.

Some things are clear. The President remains opposed to any tax rate hike. This would be a step in the wrong direction which could chill the economy. Further, any agreement must include significant spending cuts -- and I am convinced that those are possible. Finally, a mechanism must be found to ensure that the agreement cannot be changed by Congress. We have been there before.

Toward that goal, I very much appreciated your thoughts on how this might best be accomplished, and I have passed them along to others who are involved in the negotiations. I remain hopeful that an agreement can be reached which will meet our goals and take a positive step toward solving the deficit.

With best wishes,

Sincerely,

Howard H. Baker, Jr.
Chief of Staff to the President

Mr. Frank Gilkerson
30 North La Senda
South Laguna, CA 92677

HHB/DCrippen/RRange/JCT/CAD/ckbf5
HHB-21

✓cc: Dan Crippen, WW
cc: Lorraine Camarano - 61 OEOB

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

December 9, 1987

Dear Mr. Kislak:

Thank you for your letter concerning what you can do to support deficit reduction.

As I'm sure you are aware, we have reached a deficit reduction agreement with Congressional leaders and this package will be considered very soon. This is not a perfect package and it need not be the last word on deficit reduction. But it is clear that if it doesn't pass the results will likely be severe. It's also far superior to the indiscriminate budget cuts that would occur under an automatic sequester.

A defeat of this package would send a dire signal to the international markets that our government has lost the ability to control the deficit -- a signal that could be followed by higher interest rates and a serious slowing of our economy.

This agreement is a solid step toward meaningful deficit reduction over two years, without increasing tax rates or adding new broad-based taxes. Although the specific revenue sources will be determined through the regular legislative process, the President has indicated that he will not hesitate to veto a bad tax bill as the attached remarks indicate.

Now the challenge is to get the package passed by Congress. You and all concerned citizens can help by telling your elected officials that now, not later, is the time to act on deficit reduction.

Thank you for writing.

Sincerely,

Howard H. Baker, Jr.
Chief of Staff to the President

Mr. Jay I. Kislak
J. I. Kislak Mortgage Corporation
7900 Miami Lakes Drive West
Miami Lakes, Florida 33016-5897